

Message Text

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47

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 IOE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 EB-07

AID-05 SY-05 A-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AGR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8491

INFO USUN NEW YORK 559

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 4823

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, UN, IV

SUBJECT: GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S PROPOSED TRIP TO AFRICA

REF: STATE 126400

1. EMBASSY DELIGHTED WITH GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S PROPOSED VISIT TO ABIDJAN AND ATTENDANCE AT OPENING OF 61ST ECOSOC MEETING, VISIT IS TIMELY AND APPROPRIATE AND WILL BE WELCOMED BY GOIC.

2. BOTH PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY AND FONMIN USHER WILL BE IN ABIDJAN DURING GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S VISIT. THEY WILL BE HEAVILY INVOLVED IN ECOSOC CEREMONIES, BUT EMBASSY BELIEVES EACH WILL WISH HAVE PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WITH GOVERNOR SCRANTON.

3. ECOSOC OPENING AND ATTENDANT CEREMONIES WILL ALSO BE DEMANDING OF GOVERNOR SCRANTON'S TIME, AND HIS SCHEDULE LIKELY TO BE CROWDED. TIME PERMITTING, EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL MEET AT LEAST BRIEFLY WITH FINANCE MINISTER BEDIE, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF IMF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; AGRICULTURE MINISTER SAWADOGO WHO HAS WORKED

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CLOSELY WITH US ON COMMODITY AGREEMENTS; AND MINISTER

OF PLAN DIAWARA WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF "CLUB OF DAKAR" AND INTERESTED IN REGIONAL AS WELL AS IVORIAN DEVELOPMENT.

4. HOTEL SITUATION WILL BE DIFFICULT DURING ECOSOC, AND EMBASSY HAS TENTATIVELY RESERVED SUITE AND THREE SINGLES AT HOTEL IVOIRE (WHERE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE) FOR GOVERNOR SCRANTON AND PARTY. BELIEVE AMBASSADOR SMITH MAY WISH INVITE GOVERNOR AND MRS. SCRANTON TO STAY AT RESIDENCE, WHICH IS NEAR HOTEL. REQUEST DEPARTMENT INFORM THE AMBASSADOR, WHO WILL BE IN WASHINGTON ON CONSULTATIONS BEGINNING MAY 25, OF PROPOSED VISIT.

5. ECOSOC PROFESSIONAL AND SOCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER MEETINGS SUGGESTED ABOVE WILL PROBABLY PRECLUDE ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES. AMBASSADOR AND SENIOR EMBASSY STAFF WOULD OF COURSE HOPE HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH GOVERNOR SCRANTON AND PARTY. IF TIME PERMITS, AMERICAN MEMBERS OF MISSION WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH GOVERNOR SCRANTON.
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